

Amendment to the Specification

The application has been amended as follows:

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 5-7 with the following:

The invention relates to a tubular compression bandage of elastic textile material, ~~said~~ the compression bandage being provided with a plurality of tightening straps adjacently encompassing the bandage.

Please replace the paragraph on page 2, lines 12-23 with the following:

The object of the invention, therefore, is to create a tubular compression bandage of the initially described design in which the therapeutic effect is considerably improved in comparison with the known bandages. The object of the invention is achieved in that the tightening straps are fastened by their starting portions to a starting longitudinal strip connected to the outer surface of the bandage and are guided circumferentially in pairs at an oblique angle of up to 30° with respect to the longitudinal direction of the bandage to their terminating portions on the side opposite the starting longitudinal strip to pairs of securing eyes arranged in herringbone-like manner and are folded back therein to form ~~Velcro-type~~ to mate with a hook and loop fastener element to form, for example, Velcro™ fasteners on the bandage, the degree of oblique guiding being adjustable through selectable fixing of the starting and/or terminating portions of the tightening straps in the longitudinal direction of the bandage.

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Please replace the paragraph on page 3, lines 26-31 with the following:

Similarly, the starting longitudinal strip, to which the tightening straps are connected by their starting portions, may be in the form of a ~~Velcro-type~~ Velcro™ strip. This makes it possible suitably to vary the degree of oblique guiding of the tightening straps. Such fixing can be effected either just with regard to the starting portions of the tightening straps or with regard to the terminating portions of the tightening straps or with regard to both portions of the tightening straps.

Please replace the paragraph on page 4, lines 1-10 with the following:

Additional treatment of an injured muscle using the compression bandage according to the invention can be achieved in that said bandage is provided with a pressure pad, this being advantageously possible in that the bandage is provided on its inner surface with a ~~Velcro-type~~ Velcro™ layer, it being possible for a pressure pad with ~~Velcro-type~~ Velcro™ fastening portions to be selectably attached to said ~~Velcro-type~~ Velcro™ layer. Depending on the site of the injury covered by the compression bandage, the pressure pad is then additionally inserted and then exerts a supplementary pressure on the injured site in addition to the tensile and compressive forces exerted by the bandage.

Please replace the paragraph on page 5, lines 10-21 with the following:

The tubular compression bandage presented in Figure 1 consists of the tube piece 1 made of elastic textile material, attached to the front side of which on the outside is the

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starting longitudinal strip 2, which extends in the longitudinal direction of the bandage. Fastened on the starting longitudinal strip 2 are three securing eye holders 3, 4 and 5 each comprising a pair of securing eyes 6 and 7. The securing eyes 6 and 7 are, as can be seen, positioned at an oblique angle with respect to the longitudinal direction of the bandage, this favouring the oblique guiding of the tightening straps 8 and 9, which are passed through the securing eyes 6 and 7. The three securing eye holders 3, 4 and 5 are attached to the starting longitudinal strip 2 by means of ~~Velcro-type~~ Velcro™ fasteners, for which purpose the starting longitudinal strip 2 is in the form of a pile strip and the securing eye holders 3, 4 and 5 are provided with corresponding hook parts.

Please replace the paragraph on page 5, lines 23-28 with the following:

The tightening straps 8 and 9 are passed through the securing eyes 6 and 7 and then folded back, the latter likewise being attached to the respective tightening straps 8 and 9 by means of a ~~Velcro-type~~ Velcro™ fasteners 10 and 11, the tightening straps for this purpose being provided with pile layers. Figure 1 shows how the terminating portion 12 of the tightening strap 8 has initially not yet been completely folded back with its terminating portion 12.

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 6-12 with the following:

Figure 3 shows the compression bandage presented in Figures 1 and 2 with a view onto the rear side thereof, namely onto the starting longitudinal strip 14, to which the starting portions 15 and 16 of the tightening straps 8 and 9 are attached relatively far down on

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the starting longitudinal strap 14, such attachment being accomplished by means of ~~Velcro-type~~ Velcro™ fastener, this then resulting in a corresponding visible oblique position of the tightening straps 8 and 9 in view of the attachment of the securing eye holders on the other side (see Figures 1 and 2).

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 14-29 with the following:

Figure 4 presents a section along line I-I from Figure 1 showing the positions of the tightening straps 9 hidden by the respective body part (in this case, a thigh). The tightening straps 9 extend from the starting longitudinal strip 14 to the securing eye holders 3, 4 and 5, where they are then folded back in the manner shown in Figures 1 and 2. The securing eye holders 3, 4 and 5 are fixed on the terminating longitudinal strip 2. Depending on the positions of the securing eye holders 3, 4 and 5 and of the starting portions 16 on the starting longitudinal strip 14, there results a corresponding oblique position of the tightening straps 9; the other starting portions 15 and tightening straps 8 are not visible in the sectional drawing according to Figure 4. Additionally shown is the pressure pad 17, which is inserted into the bandage in the region of the starting longitudinal strip 14 and which is held in place at the insertion site by a ~~Velcro-type~~ Velcro™ layer provided on the inside of the bandage. Depending on its selectable position, the pressure pad 17 locally exerts a particular pressure on an injury site, this permitting an especially desired treatment of the injury in addition to the effect of the compression bandage.